



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney David Kustoff
Western District of Tennessee**

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Memphis Attorney Pleads Guilty to Child Pornography Charges

Memphis, TN-**DRAYTON BEECHER SMITH, II**, a 57 year old local attorney from Memphis, Tennessee, plead guilty before U. S. District Court Judge Bernice B. Donald to Possession and Receipt of child pornography in interstate commerce by means of a computer announced David Kustoff, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee. Smith was indicted in November 2006 by a federal grand jury.

The maximum penalty for Receipt is not less than five (5) years and not more than 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. The maximum penalty for Possession is not more than ten (10) years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Smith is scheduled to be sentenced on September 18, 2007.

This case was investigated by member agencies of the Memphis Crimes Against Children Task Force - specifically, the FBI, ICE, Shelby County Sheriff's Office, and Memphis Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Dan Newsom is handling the case for the government.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

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